THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) conducted a multi-institutional multi-disciplinary study betwwen 1985 and 1990 in Shimoga District of Karnataka State. This study had identified Handigodu disease as a syndrome of genetically determined multiple epiphyseal dysplasia particularly affecting the epiphyses at hips, wrist, knee and the spine producing vairable clinical and radioligical syndrone of bone disease and deformties. No evidence is available which would indicate that the pesticides are the cause of dwarfism. The final report of the study has not been published so far.

(c) No such studies have been conducted by the ICMR on epilepsy.

(d) The ICMR's National of Occupational Health Ahmedabad is already having a Division which works on experimental evaluation of pesticides commonly used in India and also initiates epidemiological investigations.

Medical facilities to Uttarkashi victims

46. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1172 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th December, 1991 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that victims of Uttarkashi earthquake continue to be neglected and are not getting health care ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that only a few NGOs are providing health care to the victims and if so, the names of these NGOs ihcicating the assistance provided to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) No. All the earthquake victims are heing provided proper and edequate health care.

(b) No. Most of the proper medical and health care has been provided by Govt. agencies. However some of the NGOs like Shri Bhuvaneshwar Mahila Ashram Anajenisan, Tehri Garhwal have also contributed medical care to the victims.

Water borne diseases

3547. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified areas most prone to water borne diseases and epidemics ;

(b) if so what are the details thereof and steps taken to reduce the water-borne diseases ;

(c) what it the financial assistance being provided to various states to combat water-borne diseases ;

(d) the assistance received from international agencies for such programmes ; and

(e) the number of people affected with water-borne diseases at any time all over the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARBHA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Assistance is provided for Accelerated Rural Water Supply